

Message Text

SECRET

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 MC-02 AID-20 IGA-02

CIEP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 011110Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7433

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 2609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS SU SA

SUBJ: UK ARMS TO THE SUDAN

REF: KHARTOUM 990, MAY 4, '72 (NOTAL)

1. EMB UNDERSTANDS UK-GOS MILITARY EQUIPMENT DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE STALLED FOLLOWING NIMEIRI'S SPRING VISIT UK (BECAUSE OF EXCESSIVE SHOPPING LIST--ONE PRICE TAG MENTIONED WAS EQUIVALENT \$130 MILLION--AND SUDANESE REQUEST FOR GRANT OR CONCESSIONAL CREDITS) HAVE RECENTLY BEEN RESUMED. REVISED SUDANESE PROPOSAL REPORTEDLY FOCUSES ON SCOUT AND FERRET ARMORED CARS WITH 25 PERCENT DOWNPAYMENT AND AN EQUIVALENT \$37 MILLION GUARANTEE FROM SAG. UK CURRENTLY STUDYING, BUT NO INDICATION OF ACTION.

2. COMMENT: AS INDICATED REFTTEL, SUBSTANTIAL UK MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO SUDAN WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO BUTTRESSING NIMEIRI IN HIS QUEST FOR WESTERN ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SUPPORT, ENHANCE INTERNAL CONTROL CAPABILITY, AND DIVERT SPORTLIGHT FROM

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US INABILITY INSTITUTE MAP PROGRAM. AT SAME TIME,

IT WOULD FURTHER EXACERBATE SUDAN'S SERIOUS FX AND
EXTERNAL DEBT POSITION WHICH HMG ANXIOUS AVOID.
REPORTED SAG ROLE CONSISTENT WITH INCREASED SAUDI
FINANCIAL ATTENTION TO SUDAN PRESUMABLY ARISING
FROM POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.
BREWER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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